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RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA PRIORITY 4090
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY 7797
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 9067
RUEHKS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 6019
RHMCSUU/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

UNCLAS TOKYO 000083

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR OES - STAN SPECHT AND CAMILLE HILL
DEPT ALSO FOR EAP/J - HEATHER DRESSER

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [ENRG](#) [SENV](#) [TRGY](#) [EPET](#) [EAID](#) [SOCI](#) [KSQA](#) [KGHG](#) [KPAO](#)
JA
SUBJECT: WIREC: FORMAL INVITATION DELIVERED

REF: STATE 521

Sensitive but Unclassified, please handle accordingly.

1. (SBU) As requested in ref, EMIN met with MOFA Director-General for Economic Affairs Yoichi Otabe January 10 to deliver the Secretary's formal invitation to Foreign Minister Koumura to attend the March 2008 Washington International Renewable Energy Conference (WIREC 2008). Otabe appreciated the invitation and said he would immediately pass it to the Minister. He noted and supported the suggestion made by the Japanese Embassy in Washington to send copies directly to the Ministers at the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI), the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF), and the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) to encourage ministerial participation. At the same time, however, he noted the Diet session could make it difficult for top-level GOJ officials to travel in March, when key budgetary decisions will be made. Otabe asked that the Embassy provide information about the participation by the Secretary and other U.S. Cabinet members in WIREC.

2. Post will forward copies of the invitation letter in ref to Ministers at METI, MAFF, and MOE.

3. Post POC for WIREC activities is ESTH Officer Thomas (Toby) Wolf.
DONOVAN